1	2	3	4	5
9.	Seventh Plan (1985-90)	15686.7	218730	7
10.	Annual Plan (1990-91)	3732.6	58369	6
11.	Eighth Plan (1992-97) Outlay	30901.9	434100	7
12.	Ninth Plan (1997-02) Outlay	55231.26	875000	6

*This includes both the Central and State Plans.

Increase in irrigation potential

1777. SHRI SURESH PACHOURI: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that despite large investments in irrigation only about 40 per cent of agricultural area is irrigated;

(b) if so, the reasons for this state of affairs;

(c) in what manner Government propose to generate irrigation potential to cover additional non-irrigated land; and

(d) what has been the role of major and medium irrigation projects in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) to (d) Government of India has assessed the ultimate irrigation potential in the country as 139.9 million hectare (Mha.). The responsibility of investigation, planning, execution and maintenance of all types of irrigation projects/works primarily rests with the State Governments since irrigation is a State subject. Also, these irrigation projects/works are funded by the State Governments from their plan

funds and according to their own priorities. Creation of irrigation potential is a continuous process for which the target is set in the State's Five Year Plans according to allocation of funds by the States. At the beginning of the Ninth Five Year Plan, (i.e. 1997-98), 54.6 mha. was provided with irrigation against total sown area of 142.02 mha. which works out to 38.2 per cent. Creation of additional irrigation potential of about 10.2 mha. is expected during the Ninth Plan (1997—2002) thereby raising the total created irrigation potential to about 100 mha. of which the share of Major and Medium (M&M) projects is about 37.1 mha.

Keeping in view the need to create additional irrigation potential, the Government has taken various policy and programme initiatives. These include creation of additional irrigation potential through new major, medium and minor irrigation projects; completion of ongoing projects; rehabilitation and modernisation of existing irrigation systems; restructuring and reorientation of the Command Area Development Programme; improving water management practices through Participatory Irrigation Management, promoting efficient and economic use of water for various purposes and laying emphasis on water conservation through various methods including use of latest technologies.

In addition to allocations in the State Plans under the irrigation sector, Central Government is also providing financial assistance to the States in the form of loans under the Accelerated Irrigation Benefit Programme (AIBP), launched by the Central Government during 1996-97 for expeditious completion of ongoing major and medium irrigation projects. The scope of the programme was enhanced further during 1999-2000 by including minor irrigation schemes in respect of Special Category States, comprising the North-Eastern States and Sikkim, Hilly States of J & K and Himachal Pradesh and drought prone Kalahandi, Bolangir, Koraput districts of Orissa. The Central Government has released Rs. 7876.74 crores to the State Governments under the scheme upto the end of February, 2002. It has also been decided to provide financial assistance to identified major/medium projects in an advanced stage of construction, which can be completed in one year (2 working seasons)

under the Fast Track Programme with 100 per cent loan assistance. Priority will be given to pre-Fifth Plan and Fifth Plan projects for inclusion in the Fast Track Programme.

Renovation and revival of Orissa coast canal for irrigation

1778. DR. M.N. DAS: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any proposal for renovation and revival of the Orissa coast canal for development of irrigation facilities; and

(b) if so, the amount sanctioned for the said purpose and the progress of the work so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) and (b) Taking note of heavy silting of coastal canal in Orissa, the State Government has prepared an estimat amounting Rs. 28.72 crore for its desilting. The project has been approved by the World Bank under Cyclone Reconstruction components of Orissa Water Resources Consolidation Project (WRCP) for implementing the project in the financial year 2001-02.

New tribunal for surplus Krishna water

1779. SHRI H.K. JAVARE GOWDA: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether Karnataka has moved to the Central Government for the constitution of a new tribunal for determining the States' share of the surplus Krishna water;

(b) if so, whether Government propose to constitute a Tribunal to determine the share of Krishna surplus water; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRIMATI BIJOYA CHAKRAVARTY): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (c) Do not arise.